THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Simplification of procedures and system of operation of Customs Department for dealing with passengers and their baggage is a continuous process for which guidelines and instructions are issued by the Government whenever need arises.

(b) to (d) Assessment and clearance of baggage of passengers at the airports is done by Air Customs Officers on the spot. In case of doubt, approval of the Assistant Collector on duty is taken by these officers. Only in rare cases (such as import of non-baggage/industrial goods) assistance of appraisers is taken for assessment of the value of the goods. Only such goods are detained for assessment by the appraisers at a later point of time.

(e) The routine examination of passengers baggage has been done away with so that passengers who do not have dutiable goods can walk through the green channel. Such passengers are intercepted only on prior intelligence or grave suspicion. In case of passengers opting for red channel also, oral declaration is normally being accepted and the baggage is X-Rayed only in cases of grave suspicion. Customs officers have been told to be polite and prompt in clearance of passengers. Separate counters have been opened to facilitate clearance of senior citizens, women, children, handicapped persons, non-resident Indians, and passengers importing gold and silver.

Mechanism to Enforce Post-Issue Governance

1443. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chambers of Commerce and Industry has mooted a mechanism to be introduced in the capital market to enforce post-issue governance to ensure long term health of the capital market;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regards; and

(c) Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Hauling of Heroin

1444. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a big-haul of Heroin worth Rs. 60 crores in the International market was made from a truck at Delhi border on 6th October, 1993;

(b) if so, the details of the catch; and

(c) whether any gang operating the racket was nabbed, if so, the details of the persons apprehended and their modus operandi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir. No precise valuation of narcotic drugs, which are often of indeterminate chemical strength and composition, and are liable for destruction, is feasible.

(b) Officer of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, New Delhi effected a seizure of 62.370 Kgs. of heroin (gross weight). On 6-10-1993, at the outskirts of Delhi from a truck 3 persons were apprehended.